



**BILLING CODE: 4163-18-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**Fees for Sanitation Inspection of Cruise Ships**

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),  
Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** General notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), located within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces fees for vessel sanitation inspections for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. These inspections are conducted by HHS/CDC's Vessel Sanitation Program (VSP). VSP helps the cruise line industry fulfill its responsibility for developing and implementing comprehensive sanitation programs to minimize the risk for acute gastroenteritis. Every vessel that has a foreign itinerary and carries 13 or more passengers is subject to twice-yearly unannounced operations inspections and, when necessary, re-inspection.

**DATES:** These fees apply to inspections conducted from October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** CDR Aimee Treffiletti,  
Chief, Vessel Sanitation Program, National Center for  
Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and  
Prevention, 4770 Buford Highway N.E., MS F-59, Atlanta,  
Georgia 30341-3717; phone: 800-323-2132; email:  
vsp@cdc.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose and Background**

HHS/CDC established the Vessel Sanitation Program (VSP) in the 1970s as a cooperative activity with the cruise ship industry. VSP helps the cruise ship industry prevent and control the introduction, transmission, and spread of gastrointestinal illnesses on cruise ships. VSP operates under the authority of the Public Health Service Act (Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act; 42 U.S.C. Section 264, "Control of Communicable Diseases"). Regulations found at 42 CFR 71.41 (Foreign Quarantine—Requirements Upon Arrival at U.S. Ports: Sanitary Inspection; General Provisions) state that carriers arriving at U.S. ports from foreign areas are subject to sanitary inspections to determine whether there exists rodent, insect, or other vermin infestations; contaminated food or water; or other sanitary conditions requiring

measures for the prevention of the introduction, transmission, or spread of communicable diseases.

The fee schedule for sanitation inspections of passenger cruise ships by VSP was first published in the Federal Register on November 24, 1987 (52 FR 45019). HHS/CDC began collecting fees on March 1, 1988. This notice announces fees for inspections conducted during FY 2020 (beginning on October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2020).

The following formula will be used to determine the fees:

$$\text{Average cost per inspection} = \frac{\text{Total cost of VSP}}{\text{Weighted number of annual inspections}}$$

Total cost of VSP = Total cost of operating the program, such as administration, travel, staffing, sanitation inspections, and outbreak response. Weighted number of annual inspections = Total number of ships and inspections per year accounting for vessel size, number of inspectors needed for vessel size, travel logistics to conduct inspections, and vessel location and arrivals in U.S. jurisdiction per year.

The fee schedule was most recently published in the Federal Register on June 20, 2018 (83 FR 28650). The fee schedule for FY 2020 is presented in Appendix A.

## **Fee**

The fee schedule (Appendix A) applies to inspections conducted from October 1, 2019, through September 30, 2020. The FY 2020 fee schedule adds a new category and fee for the largest ships (Super Mega) and a schedule table for construction and renovation inspections.

## **Applicability**

The fees will apply to all passenger cruise vessels for which inspections are conducted as part of HHS/CDC's VSP.

Dated: August 14, 2019

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Sandra Cashman  
Executive Secretary,  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Appendix A

### Fee Schedule for Each Vessel Size - Operations Inspections

| Vessel size (GRT <sup>1</sup> )  | Inspection fee<br>US\$ |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Extra Small (<3,000 GRT)         | 1,495                  |
| Small (3,001-15,000 GRT)         | 2,990                  |
| Medium (15,001-30,000 GRT)       | 5,980                  |
| Large (30,001-60,000 GRT)        | 8,970                  |
| Extra Large (60,001-120,000 GRT) | 11,960                 |
| Mega (120,001-140,000 GRT)       | 17,940                 |
| Super Mega (>140,001 GRT) *      | 23,920                 |

*\*New vessel size category.*

<sup>1</sup>Gross register tonnage in cubic feet, as shown in Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

Operations inspections and re-inspections involve the same procedures and require the same amount of time, so they are charged at the same rates.

### Fee Schedule for Each Vessel Size - Construction/Renovation Inspections

| Vessel size (GRT <sup>1</sup> ) | Inspection fee<br>US\$ |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
|                                 |                        |

|                                  |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Extra Small (<3,000 GRT)         | 2,990  |
| Small (3,001-15,000 GRT)         | 5,980  |
| Medium (15,001-30,000 GRT)       | 11,960 |
| Large (30,001-60,000 GRT)        | 17,940 |
| Extra Large (60,001-120,000 GRT) | 23,920 |
| Mega (120,001-140,000 GRT)       | 35,880 |
| Super Mega (>140,001 GRT) *      | 47,840 |

*\*New vessel size category.*

<sup>1</sup>Gross register tonnage in cubic feet, as shown in Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

Construction/renovations inspections require at least twice the amount of time as operations inspections, so they are charged double the rates.

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